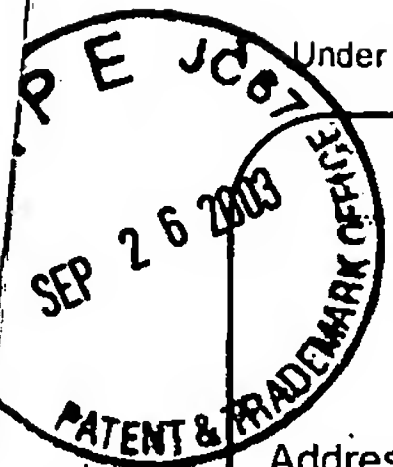


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RCE/1600
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Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/016,969
Filing Date	December 14, 2001
First Named Inventor	Richard A. PITTNER et al.
Art Unit	1646 ✓
Examiner Name	R. Li
Attorney Docket Number	0401-UTL-0/18528.010

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
ii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)
b. ☒ Other Supplemental Form PTO-1449, references; postcard

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 010535
- | | | | | | |
|---|------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | 09/29/2003 | SSSESKE1 | 00000071 | 010535 | 10016969 |
| i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) | 01 | FC:2202 | 477.00 | DA | |
| ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17) | 02 | FC:2201 | 378.00 | DA | |
| iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>excess claims fees</u> | 09/29/2003 | SSSESKE1 | 00000071 | 010535 | 10016969 |
| b. <input type="checkbox"/> Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed | 03 | FC:2201 | 375.00 | DA | |
| c. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) | | | | | |

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Mi K. Kim	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	44,830
Signature		Date	9/22/03

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

Name (Print /Type)	Mi K. Kim	Date	9/22/03
Signature			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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PATENT
Atty Docket No. 0401-UTL-0/18528.010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. Serial No. : 10/016,969
Applicant : Pittner *et al.*
Filed : December 14, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1646
Examiner : Ruixiang Li

Confirmation No.: 7314

RECEIVED
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Mail Stop After Final
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION ACCOMPANYING A REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action of June 18, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

In addition, Applicants have included a Request for Continued Examination, the appropriate fee, an Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, references and other accompanying papers relating to the present filing.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. §1.10)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop AF, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

9/22/2003
Date of Deposit

M. K. King
Name of Person Mailing Paper

[Signature]
Signature of Person Mailing Paper

As the initial deadline for responding to the Office Action is September 22, 2003, as this is the first work day after the announcement of an emergency within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 21(a) and 37 CFR 1.6(e). Therefore, the instant Response is timely filed.